

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 are in this case. Claims 16 and 19 have been rejected under § 112, second paragraph. Claims 9, 15 and 17 have been rejected under § 102(b). Claim 18 has been rejected under § 103(a). Claims 10-14, 16 and 19 have been objected to. Claims 1-8 have been allowed. Dependent claims 10 and 16 have been canceled. Independent claims 9, 15 and 19 and dependent claims 11-14, 17 and 18 have been amended.

### § 112, Second Paragraph Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 16 and 19 under § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Specifically, the Examiner has pointed out that the term “their” in claim 16 and the term “its” in claim 19 are relative terms which renders the claims indefinite.

Claim 16 has been canceled, thereby rendering moot the Examiner’s rejection of this claim.

As noted below, claim 15 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 16. Claim 15 also has been amended to clarify that the “respective associated descriptors” are respective associated descriptors of the dropped doorbells. Claim 19 now has been amended to clarify that the “respective associated descriptors” are respective associated descriptors of each dropped doorbell. Support for these amendments is found in the specification at least on page 10 lines 5-21:

The recovery of dropped doorbells is now explained in detail with reference to FIG. 6. A third check step 602 checks if the ARF is

set. If the ARF is not set (doorbell not dropped in the system), the third check continues until it finds a set ARF. If such set ARF is found, the ARF is cleared (bit is turned off) in a step 604, and the recovery starts for all active connections. The doorbell record is read in a step 606, and a fourth check step 608 checks if the SW DB counter value is greater than the HW DB counter value...A successful fourth check (Yes) indicates that there are one or more descriptors to be executed. In this case, the NIC HW schedules the execution of the new descriptors on the specific QP in a step 610... (emphasis added)

As noted by the Examiner in item 6 of the instant Office Action, the amendment of claim 19 places claim 19 in condition for allowance.

#### **§ 102(b) Rejections – Shah et al. ‘337**

The Examiner has rejected claims 9, 15 and 17 under § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shah et al., US Patent No. 6,347,337 (henceforth, “Shah et al. ‘337”). The Examiner’s rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted below, claim 9 has been placed in condition for allowance by the inclusion therein of the limitations of claim 10, and claim 15 has been placed in condition for allowance by the inclusion therein of the limitations of claim 16. With claim 15 allowable in its present form it follows that claim 17 that depends therefrom also is allowable.

#### **§ 103(a) Rejections – Shah et al. ‘337 in view of Kagan et al. ‘897**

The Examiner has rejected claim 18 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah et al. ‘337 in view of Kagan et al., US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0165897. The Examiner’s rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted below, claim 15 has been placed in condition for allowance by the inclusion therein of the limitations of claim 16. With claim 15 allowable in its present form it follows that claim 18 that depends therefrom also is allowable.

### Objections

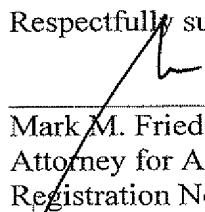
The Examiner has objected to claims 10-14 and 16 as being based on rejected base claims. The Examiner has noted that claims 10-14 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form by amending claim 9 to include the limitations of claim 10. (Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing out that claim 10 should have depended from claim 9 and not from claim 8.) Correspondingly, claim 10 has been canceled and claims 11-14 have been amended to depend from claim 9.

Claim 16 has been rewritten in independent form by amending claim 15 to include the limitations of claim 16. Correspondingly, claim 16 has been canceled and claims 17 and 18 have been amended to depend from claim 15.

In view of the above amendments and remarks it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 9, 15 and 19, and hence dependent claims 2-8, 11-14, 17 and 18 are in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 2, 2009